

PATENT
#6
5/30/02
JFR
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Watson et al.
Serial No.: 09/658,615
Filed: September 8, 2000
For: MODULAR EXPOSURE APPARATUS WITH
REMOVABLE OPTICAL DEVICE AND
IMPROVED ISOLATION OF THE
OPTICAL DEVICE
Examiner: P. Kim
Attorney Docket: PA0362-US/11269.20

Art Unit
2851INTERVIEW SUMMARY

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

On May 22, 2002, the undersigned attorney for the applicants, namely Steve Roeder and the Examiner Peter Kim had multiple telephonic interviews to discuss the Amendment and Response to Office Action filed on April 2, 2002. New Figure 1A and the amendments to the specification on Page 17 and Page 19 were discussed. In particular, we discussed that the support for new Figure 1A could be found in original Figures 1 and 7, and the specification at page 9, lines 10-28 and original claims 22 and 47. Additionally, we discussed that support for the amendments to the specification on Page 17 and Page 19 can be found on page 12, lines 7-9.

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION UNDER 37 CFR §1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted via facsimile to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Attention Examiner P. Kim at 703-746-4361 on this 22nd day of May, 2002.

5 / r STEVEN G. ROEDER, Attorney for Applicants—Registration No. 37,227

Further, the relationship between the base assembly and the optical assembly was also discussed. In particular, we discussed the following portions of the original specification:

- 1) On Page 8, lines 14 and 15, "The base assembly includes the base frame 14, a portion or all of the first stage assembly 16, and the second stage assembly 18."
- 2) On Page 11, line 28 provides that "The first stage base 130 supports the fine stage 132 during movement."
- 3) On Page 12, lines 1-9, "In the embodiment illustrated in the Figures, because the fine stage 132 is moved with only three degrees of freedom relative to the first stage base 130, the first stage base 130 is secured to the optical device 22 and is part of the optical assembly 36. With this design, the position of the fine stage 132 relative to the optical device 22 is maintained along the Z axis, about the X axis and about the Y axis. Alternately, if the fine stage 132 is moved with six degrees of freedom relative to the first stage base 130, the first stage base 130 could be secured to the base frame 14 and could be part of the base assembly 38."

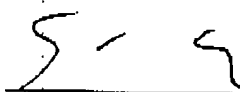
Thus, the specification teaches that if the fine stage 132 is moved with only three degrees of freedom relative to the first stage base 130, the first stage base 130 is secured to the optical device 22 and is part of the optical assembly 36. Alternately, if the fine stage 132 is moved with six degrees of freedom relative to the first stage base 130, the first stage base 130 could be secured to the base frame 14 and could be part of the base assembly 38. As a result thereof, the base assembly 38 can include a portion or all of the first stage assembly 16. Further, the optical assembly 36 can include the first stage base 130 and the fine stage 132. Alternately, the optical assembly 36 can be designed without the first stage base 130 and the fine stage 132.

In view of the Amendment, th Examiner indicated that the objection to the specification and th rejections under 35 USE § 112 were likely overcome.

The Applicants want to thank the Examiner for his time and consideration of the Application.

Dated this 22nd day of May, 2002.

Respectfully submitted,



STEVEN G. ROEDER
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 37,227

THE LAW OFFICE OF STEVEN G. ROEDER
5560 Chelsea Avenue
La Jolla, California 92037
Telephone: (858) 456-1951